02-27 7

From: nelliebugy@yahoo.com

To: Mike Powell

Date: Fri, Apr 4, 2003 2:38 PM

Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemakingan Open Process Subject:

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, N station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not **less**, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

APR - 9 200%

Contact for the contact were and sten a militar ita

Mike Brand 378 poole circle Newfield. New York 14867 EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

From: nelliebugy@yahoo.com

To: Michael Copps

**Date:** Fri, Apr 4,2003 2:38 PM

**Subject:** Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that **use** local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not less, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

7.797 um 9.000 = -

Mike Brand 378 poole circle Newfield, New York 14867 From: cmortell@attglobal.net
To: Kathleen Abernathy

Pote: Fri Apr 4 2003, 3:40 Pi

**Date:** Fri, Apr 4,2003 2:40 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

## EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not less, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed. we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

...: - 9 255

. . . .

Constance Mortell 360 E. Randolph St. Chicago,IL, Illinois 60601 From: cmortell@attglobal.net

To: Mike Powell

**Date:** Fri, Apr 4, 2003 **2:41** PM

**Subject:** Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

EX PARTE OR LATE FILEO

400 - 9 MG

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Constance Mortell 360 E. Randolph St. Chicago,IL, Illinois 60601 From:

cmortell@attglobal.net

To:

Michael Copps

Date:

Fri. Apr 4, 2003 2:41 PM

Subject:

Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, N station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.



Constance Mortell 360 E. Randolph St. Chicago, IL, Illinois 60601 From: heyrol@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Fri, Apr 4, 2003 2:53 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.



Rollie Dreussi 1729 Superior Ave E #450 Cleveland. Ohio 44114 From: heyrol@aol.com
To: Mike Powell

**Date:** Fri, Apr 4, 2003 2:53 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not less, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed. we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive **as** possible.

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED



Rollie Dreussi 1729 Superior Ave E #450 Cleveland, Ohio 44114 From: heyrol@aol.com
To: Michael Copps

**Date:** Fri, Apr 4,2003 2:53 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission **see** the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.



Rollie Dreussi 1729 Superior Ave E #450 Cleveland, Ohio 44114 From: uniondunc@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Fri, Apr 4, 2003 2:54 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Duncan Harrington 4227 Vallejo Denver, Colorado 80211 From:

uniondunc@aol.com

To:

Mike Powell

Date:

Fri. Apr 4, 2003 2:54 PM

Subject:

Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not less, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

<sub>1</sub>00 - 9 855

Duncan Harrington 4227 Vallejo Denver. Colorado 80211 From:

uniondunc@aol.com

To:

Michael Copps

Date:

Fri, Apr 4, 2003 2:54 PM

Subject:

Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps,

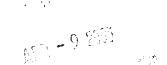
The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.



Duncan Harrington 4227 **Vallejo** Denver, Colorado 80211 From:

MAQuigley@aol.com Kathleen Abernathy

To: Date:

Fri, Apr 4,2003 2:57 PM

Subject:

Oppose Liberalization of Media Ownership Rules

EX PARITE OR LATE FILED

Dear Ms. Abernathy,

I am opposed to any proposed plan to liberalize rules regarding media ownership

**As** the months leading up to the war in Iraq have painfully demonstrated, the media is already controlled by too few corporations whose vested interest in promoting the war, to benefit parent companies, or for ratings, has played a major role in leading our country into a war that I and many others feel would have been more strongly opposed and therefore prevented had Americans enjoyed the benefit of balanced and investigative reporting.

I urge you to keep this undeniable abuse of corporate media power in mind when voting. Many American and Iraqi soldiers and civilians have been needlessly killed or maimed and scarred for life in a large part because of the failure of the **U.S.** media to remain objective in the face of anticipated profits and ratings.

Sincerely,

Michelle Quigley

1977 **- 9** 2595)

From: kgrogan@msn.com
To: kgrogan@msn.com

**Date:** Fri. Apr 4,2003 3:09 PM

**Subject:** Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

, -- - O OCC)

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission **see** the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

KENNETH GROGAN 611 DERRRINGER DR BEL AIR, Maryland **21015-4814**  From: kgrogan@msn.com

To: Mike Powell

**Date:** Fri, Apr 4, 2003 3:09 PM

**Subject:** Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that **use** local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission **see** the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not **less**, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

eng = 9 9193

KENNETH GROGAN 611 DERRRINGER DR BEL AIR, Maryland 21015-4814 From: kgrogan@msn.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Fri. Apr 4.2003 3:09 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemakingan Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Sharon Jenkins - Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

Sincerely,

611 RR BELAIR, Ma

DR 15⋅ **4** 

From: MAQuigley@aol.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Fri, Apr 4, 2003 3:09 PM

**Subject:** Oppose Liberalization of Media Ownership Regulations

Dear Mr. Adelstein,

I am opposed to any proposed plan to liberalize rules regarding media ownership.

As the months leading up to the war in Iraq have painfully demonstrated, the media is already controlled by too few corporations whose vested interest in promoting the war, to benefit parent companies, or for ratings, has played a major role in leading our country into a war that I and many others feel would have been more strongly opposed and therefore prevented had Americans enjoyed the benefit of balanced and investigative reporting.

I urge you to keep this undeniable abuse of corporate media power in mind when voting. Many American and Iraqi soldiers and civilians have been needlessly killed or maimed and scarred for life in a large part because of the failure of the U.S. media to remain objective in the face of anticipated profits and ratings.

Sincerely,

Michelle Quigley

From:

Sarah Dolan Mike Powell

To: Date:

Fri, Apr 4, 2003 3:11 PM

Subject:

Preserve Diversity and Openness in the Media and on the internet

Sarah Dolan 1301 West Madison Street,#319 Chicago, IL 60607

April 4, 2003

Federal Communications Commission Chair Michael K. Powell 445 12th St SW Rm 8-A204 Washington, DC 20554

## Chair Powell:

The Federal Communications Commission is responsible for ensuring that the media serve the public interest. I am concerned that the FCC is acting on behalf of big business rather than the people.

It is clear that the FCC has stepped up its efforts to de-regulate the media and telecommunications industries. You must act now to halt further media consolidation and to preserve the openness and diversity of the Internet.

As a supporter of women's rights, I am concerned that the current media merger free-for-all threatens to rob **us** all of the independent voices, views and ideas that nourish a pluralistic, democratic society. Ownership consolidation is squeezing out what little diversity remains in the marketplace.

The media are more than just a business; they bring information to people that affects their lives. We cannot have a healthy democracy, and women cannot pursue equal rights, if we are uninformed on the issues. The media have a responsibility to serve the public interest and ensure that all voices are heard. It is your job to promote this.

Please remember **U.S.**consumers and citizens when you review any further regulations. The media giants already control far too much of our precious information resources.

Sincerely,

Sarah E. Dolan

From: Peter Kallash To: Mike Powell

Date: Fri, Apr 4,2003 3:20 PM

Subject: Media ownership

Allowing a small handful of corporate entities to own the vast majority of media outlets is counter-productive to our democratic society. Fostering an atmosphere where ratings or book sales are more important than the truth is counter-productive to a democratic society. News media outlets should be free to report the truth and free from undue influence. Your father is a man of great integrity. Are you?

The contents of this email and any attachments are confidential.

It is intended for the named recipient(s) only.

If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager or the sender immediately and do not disclose the contents to any one or make copies. Central Investment Corp. Information Technology Team

\*\* eSafe scanned this email for viruses, vandals and malicious content \*\*

**From:** lovemotherearth@ecoisp.com

**To:** Kathleen Abernathy **Date:** Fri, Apr 4,2003 3:37 PM

**Subject:** Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, N station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Paul Williams 37 N. Boston Ave. Atlantic City, New Jersey 08401-3534 From: lovefnotherearth@ecoisp.com

To: Michael Copps

Date: Fri. Apr 4, 2003 3:37 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps

Dear FCC Commissioner Michael C. Copps,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly, no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.